

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IOE-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07

DHA-02 ORM-02 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /104 W

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P R 101508Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4905

INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 6645

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, PU, IS, PO

SUBJECT: 30TH UNGA: ANTI-ZIONISM RESOLUTION

REF: LISBON 6607 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: PORTUGAL MAY SUPPORT DEFERRAL OF ANTI-ZIONISM RESOLUTION.

END SUMMARY

1. NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR (STABELL) TOLD US NOVEMBER 10 THAT HE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO MAKE DEMARCHE TO FONMIN RE PORTUGUESE POSITION ON "ANTI-ZIONIST" MATTER. HE SAID HE LACKED INFORMATION AND ASKED US FOR BACKGROUND. WE FILLED HIM IN ON THE ITALIAN DEMARCHE (REFTEL) AND SUGGESTED THAT URGING DEFERRAL ON GOP SEEMED BEST TACK TO TAKE IN VIEW OF THEIR RESPONSE TO ITALIANS.

2. STABELL SUBSEQUENTLY INFORMED US OF RESULTS OF HIS MEETING WITH FONOFF DIRECTOR GENERAL MAGALHAES CRUZ. HE SAID THAT CRUZ INDICATED THAT A PORTUGUESE VOTE SHIFT (FROM FAVORING TO
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OPPOSITION) WAS "OUT OF QUESTION." GOP ALSO NOT FAVORABLY

INCLINED TOWARD MAKING MATTER "IMPORTANT QUESTION" BUT WOULD ENDORSE SOME PROCEDURAL MEANS OF BURYING ISSUE. CRUZ SAID HE PERSONALLY WOULD SUPPORT MOTION THAT MATTER BE DEFERRED UNTIL NEXT SESSION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY. NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR UNDERSTANDS CRUZ WILL TAKE STEPS TO CLEAR PROPOSED GOP SUPPORT FOR DEFERRAL MOTION WITH FONMIN ANTUNES AND SO INSTRUCT PORTUGUESE UN DELEGATION.

3. NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR, DRAWING UPON HIS OWN UN EXPERIENCE, TOLD CRUZ HE WAS "SHOCKED" TO LEARN OF PORTUGUESE SUPPORT FOR ANTI-ZIONISM RESOLUTION. CRUZ REPORTEDLY RESPONDED THAT GOP REPRESENTATIVE IN THIRD COMMITTEE HAD NOT BEEN LOBBIED BY OTHER ANTI-RESOLUTION DELEGATES. HE CLAIMED THAT IF GOP DELEGATE HAD BEEN CONTACTED BY OTHER DELEGATIONS, AND PARTICULARLY THE UNITED STATES, GOP VOTE MIGHT WELL HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT.

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY IS UNABLE TO VERIFY HOW MUCH OF ABOVE IS SELF-SERVING RATIONALIZATION BY CRUZ FOR A VOTE WHICH THE FONOFF MAY WISH HAD NOT BEEN CAST. HOWEVER, IT DOES LEND WEIGHT TO SPECULATION THAT ORIGINAL GOP VOTE WAS CAST BY UN DELEGATION WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS AND THAT SUBSEQUENT ADAMANT FONOFF POSITION IS ONLY TO MAINTAIN APPEARANCES. THIS WOULD ALSO EXPLAIN CRUZ'S WILLINGNESS TO DODGE ISSUE BY SUPPORTING DEFERRAL MOTION.
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